
ALBANIA YESTERDAY AND TODAY

000 quality of the wood, the timber industry could be developed very profitably.

137 There are in Albania oak forests, coniferous trees, chestnut trees, beech trees, the latter being mingled with pine and firs. Juniper, maple and box grow on the higher slopes of the mountains. The elm, chestnut, walnut and plane trees are more prevalent on the plains.

313 There are steam sawmills near Valona and elsewhere which work continually.

433 Albania being so centrally located for the Balkan States and with one of their main outlets to the Adriatic Sea, is an ideal place for the establishment of factories, branch-factories and wholesale supply houses covering all trades, from canneries to automobile manufactures to supply the needs for the Balkan States and other nearby countries, this being [441] especially desirable and ideal when we consider that there is ample labor to be had and the wages are the lowest in Europe.

• [445] [435] Land and building materials are extremely low in price, making it possible for the men of moderate means to live luxuriously.

000 Taxation on new properties does not exist,

retired to the pasturage of Beston, which the shepherd gave to his daughter, taking with them the sheep which constituted Clement's wages. Here they settled down and prospered, leaving behind them great wealth in flocks, and a numerous family of descendants. At the present day the tribe of the Clementi number 500 families, or 5400 souls. 173 539 [465] •

Social morality is pushed to its extremest limit by the Miridite mountaineers. Though their women enjoy the greatest freedom, an unmarried girl cannot, out of doors, speak to a man not a relative of her family without risking the loss of her reputation, a calamity which few would care to survive. M. Hecquard cites a case in point, related to him by an Albanian *abbé*, which well illustrates the value that an Albanian girl sets on her honour. A man happened to remark in joke to a girl, the sister of one of his friends, and before several other persons, that he had seen her in conversation with a young man, whose name he mentioned. On the following Easter Sunday, when all the tribe were congregated, the girl, who was under fifteen, on leaving the church after partaking, as is customary on that day, of the Eucharist, called God to witness to her innocence, and seizing a pistol from one of her relatives, shot herself through the heart. Two days afterwards, the man whose careless words had been the cause of the tragedy fell by the hand of the victim's brother. 562 577 796 788 762 577 627

Among the Albanians exogamy is the general rule, which is carried out by the Miridite chieftains to the extent of carrying off by force a woman from one of the neighbouring Moslem tribes. The wives of the 583 184

To the Land of the Eagle

ooo the bridge but a kilted shepherd lad called Lonila Ziko—a name as picturesque as the boy himself. I also had a talk with a young fellow in charge of a primitive flour-mill,

who spoke rudimentary Italian and asked me many questions. How long did it take to get from London to New York? How long from Albania to London? How much did it cost? What wages did people earn in London? And so forth.

I told him that wages were as much as 300 liras a week of five and a half working days, at which he shook his head anxiously. "Here", said he, "they are 30 liras for a seven day week."



LONILA ZIKO

Fearing that I was giving him a false impression I hastened to explain that although wages were so good there were many people in England who could get no work at all. But I landed myself in a worse difficulty.

"What do they do?" he asked.